

# Hunting and Trapping

## Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department  
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 01-19-18

Issued at Sitka, Alaska  
30 October, 2018

**Effective Date:** 1 November, 2018

**Expiration Date:** 30 June, 2019  
(unless superseded by subsequent  
emergency order)

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the resident and nonresident elk hunting season in the Remainder of Game Management Unit 3. This emergency order takes effect at 11:59 PM, November 1, 2018.

### REGULATION:

Therefore, the provisions of **5 AAC 85.035, Hunting seasons and bag limits for elk**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

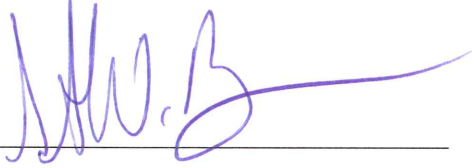
<b>Units and Bag Limits</b>	<b>Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts</b>	<b>Nonresident Open Season</b>
(1) ... Unit 3, remainder	Aug. 1 – Nov. 1 (General hunt only)	Aug. 1 – Nov. 1

1 elk

...

All other elk hunting regulations in Unit 3 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Sam Cotten  
Commissioner



By delegation to: \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen Bethune  
Wildlife Biologist IV

**JUSTIFICATION:**

Due to concerns about low elk numbers, from 2008-2012 the elk hunting season on Zarembo Island was closed by emergency order. In 2013, following several consecutive years of emergency closures, the board took similar regulatory action, closing Zarembo Island to elk hunting. In a related action, and due to concerns about hunters “bootlegging” elk off of Zarembo and claiming to have harvested them elsewhere in Unit 3 during the General Season elk hunt (Aug. 1–Dec. 31, one elk), the board also closed Bushy, Shrubby and the Kashevarof Islands to elk hunting. Anecdotal reports and the absence of verified elk sightings or kill locations in the general season hunt area suggest this hunt continues to be abused to facilitate taking elk from Etolin and Zarembo islands outside of the current bull-only drawing and registration permit hunts. Because the Department has conservation concerns for the Zarembo elk herd, an emergency order is being issued to close the remainder of Unit 3 to elk hunting at 11:59PM, Thursday November 1, 2018.

This emergency order is necessary to restrict unsustainable harvest in this area. Any additional harvest could have long-term negative effects on this elk population and prevent further recovery.

This EO does not affect the upcoming registration hunt (RE325) on Etolin Island.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

The distribution of this emergency order is to the attached listing. Copies are available from the Department of Fish and Game offices in Juneau, Douglas, Petersburg, Ketchikan, Wrangell, Sitka, Yakutat, Haines, Anchorage, Nome and Fairbanks.

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2. Assistant Attorney General (Board of Game Liaison)
3. Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
4. Division of Wildlife Conservation
  - Director
  - Deputy Director
  - Assistant Director
  - Regional Supervisors
  - Management Coordination Team
  - Area Biologists (Statewide)
  - Regulatory Coordinator

- Webmaster HQ, Juneau
- Region 1 Area Offices
- 5. Division of Boards
  - Executive Director
  - Board of Game members
- 6. Division of Subsistence
  - Director
- 7. Advisory Committee Chair (Petersburg, Wrangell)
- 8. Department of Public Safety, Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers
  - Director
  - Detachment Commander, Juneau
  - Field offices: Petersburg, Wrangell
- 9. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  - Regional Director, Anchorage
- 10. Media Contacts: Juneau Empire, Capitol City Weekly, Petersburg Pilot, Wrangell Sentinel, KFSK, KSTK
- 11. Flight Service: Pacific Wing, Nordic Air, Sunrise Aviation
- 12. Municipalities of: Petersburg, Wrangell, Thorne Bay, Coffman Cove
- 13. Other Agencies:
  - USDA-FS Tongass NF – Ranger Districts: Petersburg, Wrangell, Thorne Bay
  - Sealaska Native Corporation